



Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 10 April 2003

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- The New York Times reports Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said on Tuesday that the threat of missile attacks on passenger airliners was so serious that the government might have to consider paying for the installation of antimissile devices on the fleets of commercial airlines in the United States. (See item [7](#))
- ctnow.com reports that for the second time in recent weeks, a private security guard at Bradley International Airport has been accused of sleeping on the job. (See item [8](#))
- Microsoft has released "Security Bulletin MS03-011: Flaw in Microsoft VM Could Enable System Compromise (Critical)," and a patch is available at the Microsoft website. (See item [23](#))
- Microsoft has released "Security Bulletin MS03-012: Flaw In Winsock Proxy Service And ISA Firewall (Important)," and a patch is available at the Microsoft website. (See item [24](#))

DHS/IAIP Update Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [General](#); [DHS/IAIP Web Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: High, Cyber: High

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *April 09, Platts Global Energy News* — **Three LNG projects make progress at U.S. FERC meeting.** After touting the potential of imported liquefied natural gas (LNG) as a significant U.S. supply source, the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Wednesday

pushed three projects closer to completion. **Winning a final certificate was the Southern LNG plan to expand the storage and send-out capacity of the Elba Island LNG terminal in Georgia.** The \$148-mil project design calls for the construction of an additional marine slip, installation of a new storage tank with working capacity of 3.3 Bcf and construction of new send-out facilities with added capacity of up to 540,000 Mcf/d. **The Elba Island facility currently can store up to 4 Bcf and deliver into the interstate pipeline network up to 446,000 Mcf/d of regasified LNG.** The expansion plan calls for a September 2005 in-service date.

Source: <http://www.platts.com/stories/gas1.html>

2. *April 09, Associated Press* — **Senate panel approves \$3B for hydrogen study. A Senate committee endorsed a five-year, nearly \$3 billion research program Tuesday to develop hydrogen fuel cells and a hydrogen supply system with the goal of making hydrogen-powered cars competitive in showrooms by 2020.** The provision, nearly twice as expensive as a hydrogen initiative urged by President Bush earlier this year, is included in a broad energy bill that the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hopes complete by the end of the month. The proposal calls for increased research into developing hydrogen fuel cells that would both power automobiles and provide electric power, as well as develop technology to produce hydrogen and begin developing a hydrogen distribution system. **The legislation also would require the government to purchase, if possible, a certain number of hydrogen-powered vehicles and electricity from hydrogen sources once they become available.**

Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3759224

3. *April 08, San Jose Mercury News* — **Natural gas line rupture blocks access to San Jose airport.** PG&E crews hustled to repair a ruptured gas main that has shut down traffic into Mineta San Jose International Airport's main entrance most of the morning yesterday. **A road crew ruptured the main about 9:20 a.m. at the intersection of Airport Parkway and Airport Boulevard, forcing the closure of both streets into the airport and forcing travelers to hit the road and haul their luggage to the terminals.** Pacific Gas and Electric Co. spokesman Jeff Smith said repair crews had difficulty reaching the break because of increased security at the airport. The gas main supplies heating for airport, standard gas line. Dozens of passengers were stuck on Airport Boulevard. **Travelers ditched cabs and rides, and set off on foot, dragging luggage about a quarter-mile to the airport's two terminals.**

Source: http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_national.htm?SMDOCID=krdigital_2003_04_08_eng-krdigital_eng-krdigital_162113_4345102980448065113a

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Chemical Sector

4. *April 09, Seattle Times* — **Disposal of U.S. chemical stockpile a burning issue.** The Umatilla complex is designed to safely destroy some of the world's most lethal chemical weapons, tons of which are stowed here in the Eastern Oregon desert in sod-covered bunkers. "We plan to operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week," said Mary Binder, a public-information officer for the Army depot. But the starting date keeps shifting. **The \$2.4 billion project is two years**

behind schedule. And, it stumbled again last week as one furnace undergoing a test burn with industrial chemicals violated state air–pollution standards for five heavy metals. The Army also faces lawsuits filed by community, environmental and other groups wary of the risks to workers and residents who live near the depot. They want the Army to abandon incineration in favor of an alternate technology that would neutralize rather than burn the chemicals. **The arsenal here includes more than 200,000 rockets, bombs, mines and tanks that can be attached to airplanes and sprayed like crop–dusters. Some are packed with sarin, a nerve agent with a lethal dose of less than a droplet. Others are spiked with VX, an even more potent nerve agent. Then there are bulk containers filled with 1940s–era mustard gas.**

Source: http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/134671979_um_atilla09m.html

[[Return to top](#)]

Defense Industrial Base Sector

5. *April 09, Department of Defense* — **National Guard and Reserve mobilized as of April 9, 2003.** This week the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps each announce an increase of reservists on active duty in support of the partial mobilization. The net collective result is 2,255 more reservists than last week. At any given time, services may mobilize some units and individuals while demobilizing others, making it possible for these figures to either increase or decrease. **Total number currently on active duty in support of the partial mobilization for the Army National Guard and Army Reserve is 148,607; Naval Reserve 11,275; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, 36,567; Marine Corps Reserve, 20,721; and the Coast Guard Reserve, 4,016. This brings the total Reserve and National Guard on active duty to 221,186 including both units and individual augmentees.**

Source: http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Apr2003/b04092003_bt220-03.html

[[Return to top](#)]

Banking and Finance Sector

6. *April 08, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Securities and Exchange Commission* — **Regulators issue interagency paper on sound practices to strengthen the resilience of the U.S. financial system. Three federal regulatory agencies on Tuesday issued an "Interagency Paper on Sound Practices to Strengthen the Resilience of the U.S. Financial System."** Among other things, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and the Securities and Exchange Commission identified sound practices to strengthen the resilience of critical U.S. financial markets and minimize the immediate systemic effects of a wide–scale disruption. **On September 5, 2002, the agencies published for comment a draft of the paper in the Federal Register.** The agencies have incorporated many of the suggestions that were made. The final paper, which applies most directly to the clearing and settlement activities of a limited number of financial institutions, provides more flexibility to firms in managing geographic dispersion of backup facilities and staffing arrangements, and takes into account other considerations relevant to cost–effective implementation of sound practices. Interagency paper: <http://www.occ.treas.gov/ftp/bulletin/2003-14a.pdf>

[[Return to top](#)]

Transportation Sector

7. *April 09, New York Times* — **U.S. may need to pay to install antimissile devices on airliners.**

Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said on Tuesday that the threat of missile attacks on passenger airliners was so serious that the government might have to consider paying for the installation of antimissile devices on the fleets of commercial airlines in the United States.

Ridge said that, for now, the government should pay for research on technology that could be used to protect passenger planes from the portable shoulder-fired missiles that are known to be in the arsenal of al Qaeda and other terrorist groups. His comments, made in a meeting with reporters, were welcomed on Capitol Hill among lawmakers who have recently introduced legislation that would require the federal government to pay for the installation of antimissile technology on commercial planes, a program that could cost billions of dollars.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/09/international/worldspecial/09HOME.html>

8. *April 09, ctnow.com (Hartford, CT)* — **Airport guard accused of taking a nap. For the second time in recent weeks, a private security guard at Bradley International Airport has been accused of sleeping on the job.** Officials of the state Department of Transportation, which operates the airport, said they are investigating the incident involving a guard from Murphy Security Service of New Britain. **State police Capt. Robert Duffy said the guard was spotted by a trooper "apparently asleep" about 3 a.m. Tuesday in a booth at the west end of the airfield, where he was assigned to check vehicles and drivers moving between the terminal area and more remote parts of the 2,358-acre airfield. On the night of March 27, another Murphy Security guard stationed at the east end of the airport was found asleep by a state trooper making rounds.** Fazzino said this man admitted he was sleeping. Airport officials, citing confidentiality of personnel matters, have not said whether he was fired. The use of Murphy guards at checkpoints on the airfield formerly staffed by state police has drawn complaints from the state police union. **The private service was hired last month by the transportation department to reduce overtime worked by state police stationed at Bradley.**

Source: <http://www.ctnow.com/news/yahoo/hc-bradsnore0409.artapr09.st.ory>

9. *April 09, Reuters* — **SARS virus hits world airlines. World airlines were hit hard by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic on Wednesday as several carriers cut flights,** Australia's Qantas axed 1,000 jobs and global airlines body IATA warned the disease could hurt the industry more than the Iraq war. "SARS is likely to have a significantly worse impact on the global airline industry than the war in Iraq," International Air Transport Association (IATA) assistant director Lasantha Subasinghe told a Tokyo conference. The IATA had previously forecast war in Iraq could easily add \$10 billion to world airline losses and deepen what is already the worst crisis in the history of commercial aviation. **IATA warned more carriers could join the list of airline casualties unless they manage to cut costs.**

Source: <http://reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=businessNewsID=2533422>

10. *April 08, Pioneer Press (Minnesota)* — **FAA: Air incidents 'still too high'**. Federal Aviation Administration air traffic controllers in Minnesota and elsewhere are doing a better job of keeping planes a safe distance from each other and avoiding dangerous runway "incursions." **But the number of close calls in the air and on runways is still too high and presents serious safety risks.** That's the thrust of a report issued by the Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Transportation. **"Despite FAA's progress, the number of these incidents is still too high considering the potential catastrophic results of a midair collision or a runway accident," the report warned.** The agency called on the FAA to improve the training and oversight of controllers and to deploy more advanced technology to help them. While planes are en route, air traffic controllers are supposed to keep them apart by at least five nautical miles (about 30,000 feet) horizontally. Depending on the altitude of planes, vertical separation is 1,000 or 2,000 feet. Failure to keep planes safely apart is deemed an "operational error" in FAA-speak. **Between them, the FAA air traffic control operations in Farmington and the Minneapolis–St. Paul International Airport had 20 operational errors in the federal fiscal year of 2002, down from 24 in 2001.**

Source: http://www.twincities.com/mld/pioneerpress/news/local/558155_1.htm

[[Return to top](#)]

Postal and Shipping Sector

11. *April 09, Virginian–Pilot* — **U.S. Coast Guard will rise to challenge, chief says. Some analysts have suggested that the increasingly overburdened U.S. Coast Guard needs to hand off certain non–security functions, but the service's chief officer said Tuesday that would be a mistake.** "You'd fragment the approach to maritime safety in the nation," said Admiral Thomas H. Collins, the Coast Guard's commandant. **"We do safety, we do environment, we do aids to navigation, we regulate the maritime industry, It is a systems view of maritime, and it is efficient and effective."** Since the Coast Guard transferred from the Department of Transportation in March to the new Department of Homeland Security, Collins said he has been asked repeatedly at congressional hearings about whether his service is able to take on the new functions of the new department.

Source: <http://www.pilotonline.com/military/ml0409adm.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Agriculture Sector

12. *April 09, Associated Press* — **Government to send stockpiles of dry milk to livestock farmers in dry states. Millions of pounds of dry milk will be hauled from storage caves and warehouses to 24,000 farmers in drought–ravaged states to feed their cattle, buffalo, sheep, and goats.** U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman said Tuesday that 218 million pounds of the government's surplus powdered milk will help farmers in the Plains and Western states as they prepare for what is forecast to be another very dry spring and summer. "One of our most pressing concerns right now is the ability of pasture and grazing lands to support livestock herds," Veneman said. "These herds are crucial to the livelihoods of many rural families, and they are the backbone of the economy in many rural communities." **Farmers in**

nine states from Arizona to Montana will get the protein-packed dry milk to add to grain for their livestock.

Source: http://www.trib.com/AP/wire_detail.php?wire_num=59554

13. *April 09, Wisconsin Ag Connection* — **Agriculture being pro-active against bioterrorism threats. Wisconsin Congressman Ron Kind joined up with several other federal lawmakers this week in creating the House Food Safety Caucus, an effort that focuses attention on and offers solutions to protecting the nation's food supply from contamination, including those from bioterrorist attacks.** Kind says the group will hold regular educational briefings on food safety issues including topics such like contamination of foods, protection of the nation's food supply, bioengineered foods, risk-based management of food quality, and sustainable farming. "A bioterrorist attack on our food supply would devastate both our farmers and our nation," said Kind. "Whether an outbreak of disease in our live stock herds occurs naturally or from terrorist attack, we have to be doing everything we can to prevent it."

Source: <http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=427&yr=2003>

[[Return to top](#)]

Food Sector

14. *April 09, Agence France-Presse* — **Milk poisoning likely deliberate. A milk poisoning that killed three Chinese children, left others blind and affected 3,000 in total may have been a deliberate act, a report said Wednesday.** Local media in north-eastern Liaoning province reported that thousands of children fell ill after drinking the locally manufactured soya milk recommended by the local education commission on March 19. More than 200 pupils and their parents arrived in Beijing on Monday to seek better treatment. A doctor quoted by the China Daily from the Beijing Children's Hospital said it was "obviously" a case of food poisoning. "I am afraid someone has intentionally put poison into the milk as the urinary albumin and phosphate indices are strangely higher than normal figures," said the doctor, who was not named.

Source: http://www.dailytelegraph.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,5936,6259872%25E401,00.html

[[Return to top](#)]

Water Sector

15. *April 09, Associated Press* — **Water lines shut down after Legionnaire's disease-causing bacteria found. Unusually high levels of the bacteria that causes Legionnaire's disease has been detected in some water lines at a Saginaw, MI rail facility operated by CSX Transportation, prompting the company to shut down those lines.** CSX informed county health officials of the finding Monday after doctors detected high levels of the bacteria in a 56-year-old employee last week. "They're removing water heaters, drinking fountains and low usage (water) lines," Kevin Datte, director of environmental health at Saginaw County's Public Health Department said. The company plans to bring in bottled water and

test other employees. Datte said equipment was removed as a precaution and there is no way of determining whether water at the CSX yard caused the Legionnaire's bacteria. **CSX receives water from the Saginaw city water system, Datte said.**

Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/mld/kansascity/business/5594123.htm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health Sector

16. *April 09, South Florida Sun-Sentinel* — **Shortage of infant vaccine forces doctors to ration, reduce shots. A vaccine that protects infants from bacteria that can cause meningitis, pneumonia, and some ear infections is in such short supply that doctors have had to ration it, and in many cases, reduce the number of shots babies get.** Doug Lees, coordinator of the Florida Department of Health's Vaccines for Children program, said the state has been following guidelines for reducing the number of shots a child gets based on age at first shot. The protocol was developed by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, a group of physicians and other health experts, he said. Tim O'Connor, spokesman for the Palm Beach County Health Department, said the department is using the protocol. "We are experiencing the same shortages and delays as everybody else," O'Connor said.

Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/palmbeach/sfl-pvaccin09apr09.0.1918135.story?coll=sfla-news-palm>

17. *April 09, Toronto Star* — **"Super carrier" theory probed. Scientists are working with the theory some people may be "hyper-infectors," super carriers of an illness that has gripped Toronto, Canada for the last month.** For instance, one of the first Toronto patients to catch Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) went on to cause 20 subsequent cases of illness. **The United States hasn't seen death rates like Canada's and it could be because it doesn't have patients who are as infectious as those in Canada, noted Dr. Donald Low, chief of microbiology at Mount Sinai Hospital.** "Maybe they didn't have a patient that was one of these hyper-infectors and people at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and around the world are scratching their heads about that. We know it happens with some bacteria, does it actually happen with virus infections?" he said. Scientists don't understand what this new pathogen, a new virus, does to people, he said. **Without the public health measures now being taken to contain the virus, the consequences would be devastating, he added.** If doctors can contain it for the next two or three years, then hopefully there will be a vaccine against the illness, he added.

Source: http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thetar/Layout/Article_Type135780701093geid=968867505381

18. *April 08, New York Times* — **SARS is here to stay, health officials say. Health officials in Hong Kong and Singapore warned their citizens today that the agent that causes Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) had spread so far in their communities that it would be hard to bring it under control anytime soon, if ever.** "Singaporeans must be psychologically prepared for the problem to stay with us for some time," said Lee Hsien Loong, Singapore's deputy prime minister. Hong Kong and Singapore officials began emphasizing new measures to slow the spread of the disease, but backed away from suggestions that they might be able to get rid of the disease completely. Dr. Leung Pak-yin, Hong Kong's deputy director

of health, said that residents should be concerned that the disease could be spread through contaminated objects, particularly if their apartment buildings developed large numbers of cases. "We believe that every citizen could become a carrier of the virus," especially if people do not follow practices like hand washing and the wearing of face masks, he said.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/08/international/asia/08CND-HONG.html?ex=1050465600db8G OOGLE>

[[Return to top](#)]

Government Sector

19. *April 09, New York Times* — U.S. may lower terror threat level due to war progress.

Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said on Tuesday that U.S. officials are beginning to consider lowering the national terrorist threat level from orange, or "high risk," in part because the war in Iraq has been going well. **"We certainly do have a plan to start reducing, over time, the additional security measures" put in place several days before the start of hostilities in Iraq, Ridge said at a news conference. Raising the national threat index from yellow, or "elevated" risk of a terror attack, brought more police officers onto the streets as well as tighter security at government buildings, ports, bridges and other sites.** The generally upbeat news from Iraq might also prompt the government to "reduce or finally eliminate" Operation Liberty Shield, a separate layer of security measures, such as dispatching National Guard troops to secure nuclear plants, that was initiated March 17 when the threat index was raised.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A59499-2003Apr 8.html>

20. *April 09, Honolulu Advertiser* — State asks for security money. Hawaii lawmakers have appealed to the Bush administration not to overlook the Islands when it comes to federal money for homeland security. **The state's terrorism threat level remains below the national level, and state leaders emphasize that Hawaii does not face the same risks as other parts of the country,** but state lawmakers contend that national symbols such as Pearl Harbor and other strategic military facilities need protection. In a letter to the House Appropriations Committee's homeland security subcommittee, Rep. Ed Case, D-Hawaii, outlined more than \$190 million in direct security needs for Hawaii. **The requests include \$113.9 million for airport improvements, \$22.5 million for energy, water, electric, chemical, gas and wastewater security and \$5 million for harbor security.**

Source: <http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2003/Apr/09/ln/ln0 5a.html>

21. *April 08, Department of Homeland Security* — Securing the homeland: protecting our states and cities. On Tuesday the Department of Homeland Security, through the Office of Domestic Preparedness, announced that approximately \$100 million dollars from the FY '03 Funding will be dedicated to large urban areas within the United States. **The money, dispersed under the Urban Area Security Initiative, will help enhance the local governments' ability to prepare for and respond to threats or incidents of terrorism. The funds announced today are in addition to the \$566 million that the Office for Domestic Preparedness announced last month from the FY'03 Funding for first responder needs such as equipment, training, planning and exercises.** The cities have all previously received funding from the Office for Domestic Preparedness in the form of grants for First Responders and will also potentially

receive funds from the FY '03 Supplemental Budget Request currently pending in Congress.
Cities selected are: New York; Washington, DC; Seattle, WA; Los Angeles, CA; Chicago, IL; Houston, TX; and San Francisco, CA.

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=552>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information and Telecommunications Sector

22. *April 09, New York Times* — **SARS roils computer industry.** With telecommuting taking on a sudden new attractiveness, the computer industry is benefiting in the short term from fears in East Asia over Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). But **some executives are nervous about how they will manage if the disease continues to spread in the region, which dominates global production of computers and other electronic goods.** In Hong Kong, companies and consumers have bought every desktop, laptop and notebook computer they can find as more and more people work from home for fear of becoming infected if they come to work. **Executives warn that companies could shy from sending engineers to oversee the design of new products and the construction of new factories** in places where the disease becomes widespread. That would pose a big concern in China, for example, where **many companies rely on visits by expatriate engineers to make design changes in products assembled by large numbers of low-wage local workers.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/09/science/sciencespecial/09T ECH.html>

23. *April 09, Microsoft* — **Microsoft Security Bulletin MS03-011: Flaw in Microsoft VM Could Enable System Compromise.** The Microsoft VM is a virtual machine for the Win32 operating environment. The Microsoft VM is shipped in most versions of Windows, as well as in most versions of Internet Explorer. **A new security vulnerability affects the ByteCode Verifier component of the Microsoft VM, and results because the ByteCode verifier does not correctly check for the presence of certain malicious code when a Java applet is being loaded.** The attack vector for this new security issue would likely involve an attacker creating a malicious Java applet and inserting it into a web page that when opened, would exploit the vulnerability. An attacker could then host this malicious web page on a web site, or could send it to a user in e-mail. **Corporate IT administrators could limit the risk posed to their users by using application filters at the firewall to inspect and block mobile code.** Microsoft has assigned a risk rating of "Critical" to this vulnerability. A patch is available at the Microsoft website.

Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/bulletin/MS03-011.asp>

24. *April 09, Microsoft* — **Microsoft Security Bulletin MS03-012: Flaw In Winsock Proxy Service And ISA Firewall.** There is a flaw in the Winsock Proxy service in Microsoft

Proxy Server 2.0, and the Microsoft Firewall service in ISA Server 2000, that would allow an attacker on the internal network to send a specially crafted packet that would cause the server to stop responding to internal and external requests. Receipt of such a packet would cause CPU utilization on the server to reach 100%, and thus make the server unresponsive. The Winsock Proxy service and Microsoft Firewall service work with FTP, telnet, mail, news, Internet Relay Chat (IRC), or other client applications that are compatible with Windows Sockets (Winsock). These services allow these applications to perform as if they were directly connected to the Internet. They redirect the necessary communications functions to a Proxy Server 2.0 or ISA Server computer, thus establishing a communication path from the internal application to the Internet through it. **Microsoft has assigned a risk rating of "Important" to this vulnerability. A patch is available at the Microsoft website.**

Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/bulletin/MS03-012.asp>

25. *April 08, Government Computer News* — **DHS looks to take steps forward without going back. The first rule IT leaders of the new Department of Homeland Security (DHS) are following as they establish the agency's systems makeup is "Do no harm," said Steve Cooper, the department's CIO. "We've got to be sure that we don't let the existing capabilities fall through the cracks," he said. It's not an easy process, Cooper added in a keynote speech today at the FOSE trade show in Washington, likening integrating the systems of 22 separate agencies that will become part of DHS to changing the tires of a car while it's traveling 70 miles an hour. A team of IT leaders is working to make sure the systems work for users while fitting into the department's enterprise architecture. They are trying to determine whether systems overlap, so they can determine where redundancies can be eliminated. Work on the architecture requires input from federal agencies, state and local governments, and private-sector organizations such as the Industry Advisory Council, Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association and the IT Association of America. The first technology priority of the department is wireless technology, Cooper said. .**

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/21659-1.html

26. *April 08, Government Computer News* — **Information sharing across government needs improvement. Experts agreed that information sharing across government still calls for process, not necessarily technology, improvements. But some wonder whether government leaders have weighed down that process with too many new rules, slowing that information flow. "We're setting up a whole new system of rules, processes and protocols," said John Cohen, co-director of the Progressive Policy Institute's Homeland Security Task Force. State and local law enforcers may not be sharing data readily, he said, "not because they do not want to share the information, but because they don't understand what rules they're playing under." He said state and local public safety agencies have been termed "first responders," without having a clear page of instructions on what or how to respond in chance encounters with potential or suspected terrorists.**

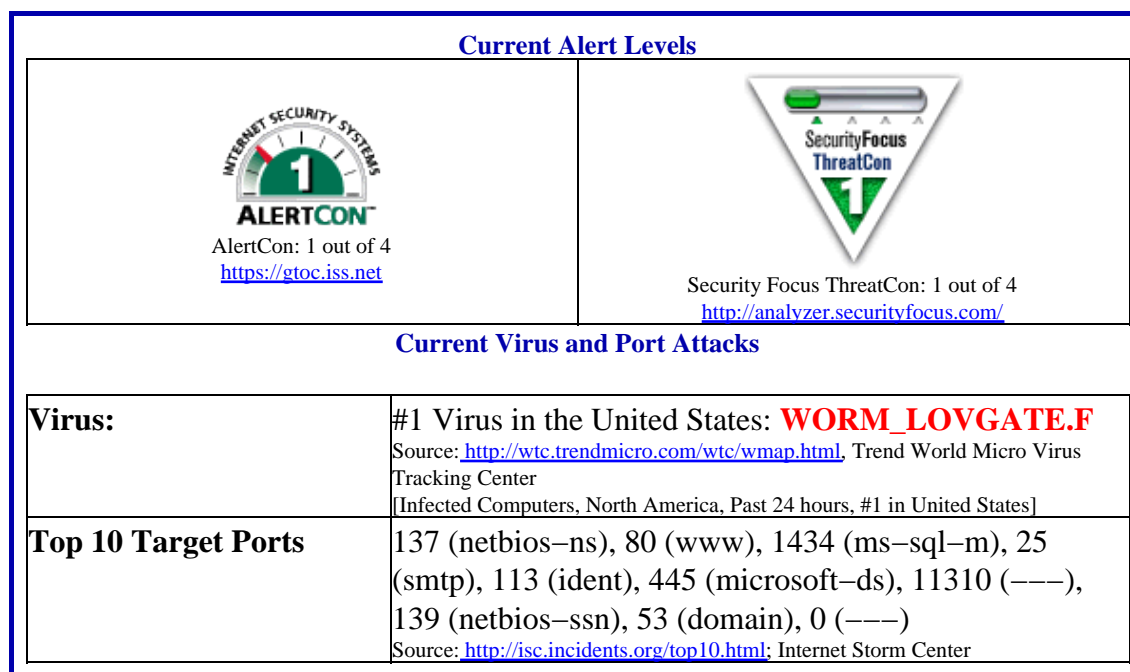
Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/21674-1.html

27. *April 08, The General Accounting Office* — **Information Security: Progress Made, But Challenges Remain to Protect Federal Systems and the Nation's Critical Infrastructures.** On April 8, the General Accounting Office (GAO) published report GAO-03-564T titled "Information Security: Progress Made, But Challenges Remain to Protect Federal Systems and

the Nation's Critical Infrastructures.” **Significant information security weaknesses at 24 major agencies continue to place a broad array of federal operations and assets at risk of fraud, misuse, and disruption.** Although recent reporting by these agencies showed some improvements, GAO found that agencies still have not established information security programs consistent with the legal requirements. For example, **periodic testing of security controls is essential to security program management, but for fiscal year 2002, 14 agencies reported they had testing the controls of less than 60 percent of their systems.** Further information security improvement efforts are also needed at the governmentwide level, and these efforts need to be guided by a comprehensive strategy in which roles and responsibilities are clearly delineated, appropriate guidance is given, adequate technical expertise is obtained, and sufficient agency information security resources are allocated.

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-03-564T>

Internet Alert Dashboard



[\[Return to top\]](#)

General Sector

28. *April 09, New York Times* — **Guilty plea by man who met bin Laden.** A man who said he had two one-on-one meetings with Osama bin Laden a few months before the September 11 terror attacks pleaded guilty on Tuesday to aiding al Qaeda, the terrorist organization. **The defendant, Sahim Alwan, was the fourth of the "Lackawanna six" – six young Yemeni-Americans from the Buffalo area – to plead guilty to charges that they attended al Farooq, a training camp run by Al Qaeda in Afghanistan. As part of a plea agreement, Alwan, 30, pleaded guilty to one count of providing material assistance to a terrorist group.** In Federal District Court, Alwan acknowledged that he first met bin Laden at a safe house in Kandahar, Afghanistan, then traveled to al Farooq and met bin Laden again at another

safe house in Kandahar.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/09/international/worldspecial/09LACK.html>

29. *April 09, Washington Post* — **Witness: four sought to help terrorists.** The chief prosecution witness in the trial of four men accused of providing material support to terrorists testified on Tuesday that they **sought his help to raise money, ship weapons and forge documents as part of an unspecified terrorism plot** that could have involved civilian targets in the United States and abroad. **Youssef Hmimssa, an immigrant from Morocco, said he met the defendants at a café in Dearborn, MI, in June 2001 after relocating to the Detroit area to escape federal authorities. On the run for allegedly bilking former taxi and restaurant customers in Chicago out of thousands of dollars,** Hmimssa, 32, said he welcomed the offer of a place to stay and moved in with three of them. The government alleges that the four defendants conspired to obtain weapons and help other religious zealots blow up U.S. targets. **It says audiotapes found in their apartment show their religious fanaticism and a videotape found there represents the fruits of a scouting mission for a terrorist attack.**

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A60165-2003Apr 8.html>

30. *April 09, BBC* — **Saddam's statue is toppled in historic moment.** An amazing event, that will probably be shown in classroom history lessons throughout the world in years to come, happened Wednesday on live TV. **A giant concrete and metal statue of Saddam Hussein (in al-Fardus (Paradise) square in central Baghdad) with his arm outstretched, pointing across Baghdad was pulled down in a dramatic scene. And in the same way that the destruction of the Berlin Wall became a part of history in 1989, these pictures will become historical. They will signal the end of Saddam's 24-year rule.** With help from the U.S. Marines, and to the cheers of the crowd, the statue snapped and toppled. The crowds jumped up and down on the statue's fallen body, pounded it with their shoes, and after 24 years, felt free enough to wave their Iraqi flags in joy and relief.

Source: http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/world/newsid_2933000/29332_37.stm

[[Return to top](#)]

DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

DHS/IAIP Warnings – DHS/IAIP Assessments, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

DHS/IAIP Publications – DHS/IAIP Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

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DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions: nipcdailyadmin@mail.nipc.osis.gov or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at 202–324–1129

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